Musical Scales of the Hindus:

WITH

REMARKS ON THE APPLICABILITY

OF

HARMONY TO HINDU MUSIC,

BY

RAJAH COMM. SOURINDRO MOHUN TAGORE,
Mus. Doc., Sangita-Náyaka,

Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire:

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT, BENGAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC;
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В

HIS EXCELLENCY'S MOST OBLIGED AND HUMBLE SERVANT,

S. M. TAGORE.

PREFACE.

take a lively interest in the Music of this country and would like to see it improved by the use of Harmony, I have ventured to publish the following pages with the object of acquainting them with the characteristic features of Hindu Music and of showing to what extent its spirit would admit of the application of Harmony thereto. How far have I been successful in giving a clear expression to my views regarding the question, I do not feel competent to say. But if a perusal of these pages enables any Musician to arrive at a definite conclusion on the subject, I shall deem myself amply rewarded.

CALCUTTA,
Pathuriaghata Rajbati,
31st July 1884.

S. M. TAGORE.

CONTENTS.

| SCALES. Pag | | | | | Page. | |
|---------------|------------------|---------|--------|-----|-------|------------|
| Sampúrn | a Thát | | ALEG. | | | 1 |
| Shárava | | ••• | ••• | ••• | | 7 |
| Orava T | | ••• | | | ••• | 30 |
| Olava 1 | | | ···· | *** | ••• | |
| | | ILLUST | 'RATIO | NS. | | |
| Sampúr | a Thát— | | | | | |
| Rágini | i Deogiri | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 62 · |
| Rága | Panchama | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 63 |
| Rágin | í Deosága | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 64 |
|)) | Kalyána | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 65 |
| " | Panchama | -Báhára | ••• | ••• | | 66 |
|)) | Jhijhití | ••• | *** | ••• | ••• | 67 |
| ,,, | Soh≤-Bhai | iraví | ••• | *** | ••• | 68 |
| ,, | Máligaurá | i | *** | *** | ••• | 69 |
| ,, | Kalingará | | ••• | *** | ••• | 70 |
| " | Ámra-Paŋ | chama | ••• | *** | ••• | 71 |
| " | Vallarí | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 72 |
| " | Pilu | ••• | ••• | *** | ••• | 73 |
| 23 | Sindhu | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 74 |
| >> | Kaumárik | i. | ••• | ••• | ••• | 7 5 |
| " | Dhánas'rí | *** | ••• | *** | ••• | 76 |
| ,, | Yogina | | ••• | ••• | ••• | 77 |
| 99 | Bágisvari | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 78 |
| " | Gujjarí | ••• | ••• | | ••• | 79 |
| " | Bhairaví | ••• | ••• | | ••• | 80 |
| " | Torí | ••• | ••• | ••• | ••• | 81 |
| Sharava Thát— | | | | | | |
| Rácini | Bibhása | *** | ••• | | | 82 |
| 21 | Sur-Malla | | ••• | , | ••• | 88 |
| " | 10 44 - MANATANI | | ••• | ••• | ••• | |

CONTENTS.

| | | | 1 | Page. |
|----------------------------|-------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Ráginí Sohiní | | ••• | | 84 |
| ,, Puriya | ••• | ••• | ••• | 85 |
| " Nágadhvani-Kánará | | ••• | ••• | 86 |
| Orava Thát— | | | | |
| Ráginí Vrindavaní-Sáranga | | | | 87 |
| ,, Hindola | | | | .88 |
| ,, Málas'rí | | • ••• | .,. | 89 |
| " Dhabalas'ri | ••• | ::. | ••• | 90 |
| " Málkos'a | ••• | | | 91 |
| | | | | |
| Remarks on the applicabili | ty of | Harmony to I | Iindu | |
| Music | ••• | • | ••• | 93 |

THE

Musical Scales of the Pindus.

SAMPÚRNA THÁT.*

ASCENDING.

(1) DESCENDING

DESCENDING.



With D Flat.

ASCENDING

2)



With E Flat.

ASCENDING.

(3) DESCENDING.



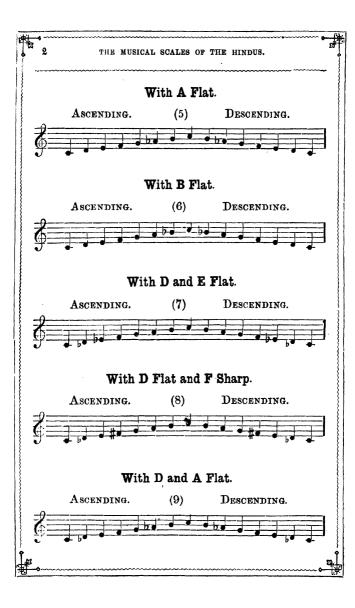
With F Sharp.

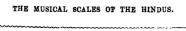
ASCENDING.

(4) DESCENDING



^{*} Scales consisting of Seven Notes.





With D and B Flat.



With E Flat and F Sharp.



With E and A Flat.

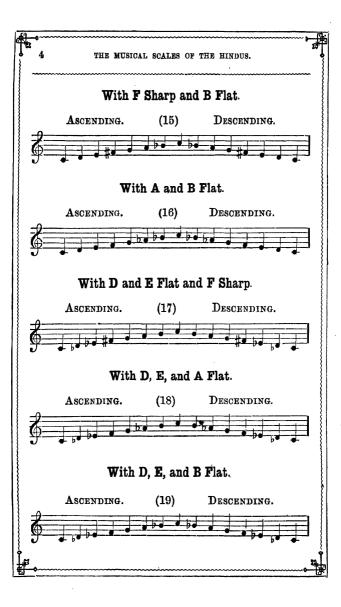


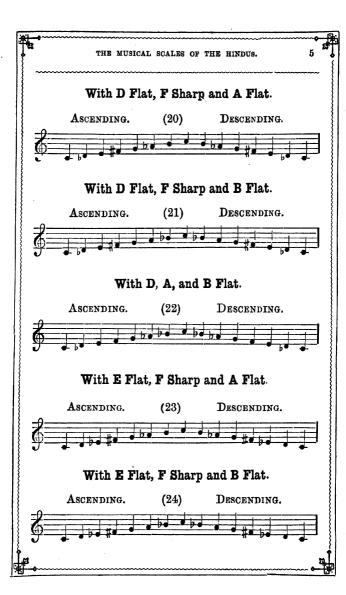
With E and B Flat.



With F Sharp and A Flat.









With E, A, and B Flat.



(25)

DESCENDING.

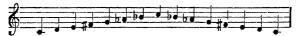


With F Sharp, A and B Flat.



(26)

DESCENDING.



With D and E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(27)

Descending.



With D and E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(28)

DESCENDING.



With D, E, A, and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(29)





With D Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(30)

DESCENDING.



With E Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(31)

DESCENDING.

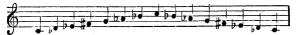


With D and E Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(32)

DESCENDING.



SHARAVA THAT.*

With D omitted.

ASCENDING.

(1)

DESCENDING.



With E omitted.

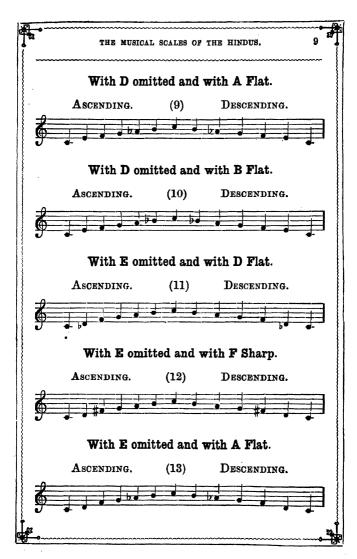
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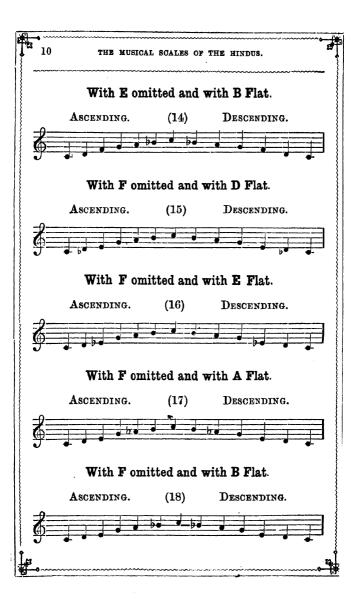
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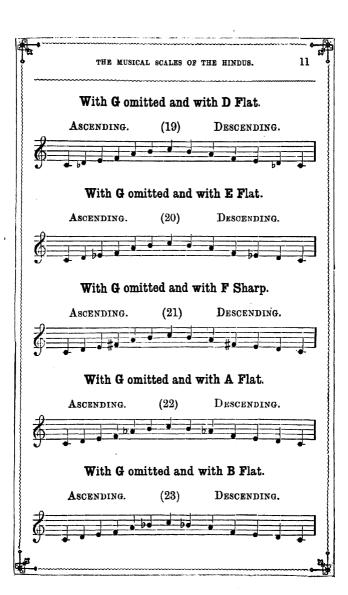


^{*} Scales consisting of Six Notes.











With A omitted and with D Flat.



With A omitted and with E Flat.



With A omitted and with F Sharp.



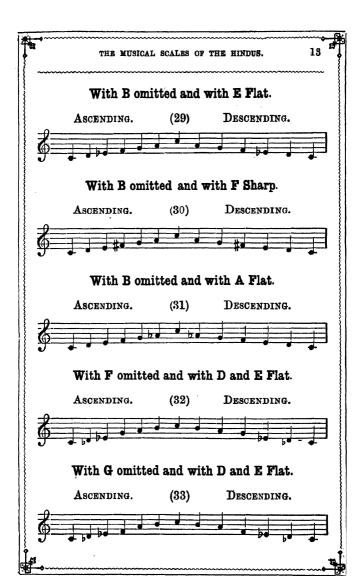
With A omitted and with B Flat.

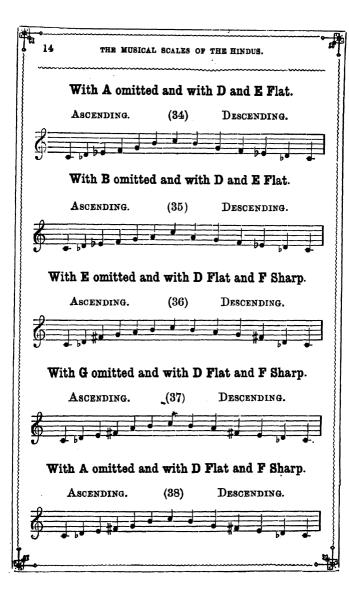


With B omitted and with D Flat. (28)

ASCENDING.









With B omitted and with D Flat and F Sharp.



With E omitted and with D and A Flat.

ASCENDING. (40) DESCENDING.



With F omitted and with D and A Flat.

ASCENDING. (41) DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with D and A Flat.

Ascending. (42)

DESCENDING.



With B omitted and with D and A Flat.

Ascending.

(43)





With E omitted and with D and B Flat.



With F omitted and with D and B Flat.



With G omitted and with D and B Flat.



With A omitted and with D and B Flat.

Ascending. (47) Descending.

With D omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(48)



With G omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.



With A omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.



With B omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

DESCENDING.



ASCENDING.

With D omitted and with E and A Flat.



With F omitted and with E and A Flat.





With G omitted and with E and A Flat.



(54)

DESCENDING.



With B omitted and with E and A Flat.

ASCENDING. (55) DESCENDING.



With D omitted and with E and B Flat.

Ascending. (56)

DESCENDING.



With F omitted and with E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(57)

DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(58)



With A omitted and with E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(59)

Descending.



With D omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(60)

DESCENDING.



With E omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(61)

Descending.



With G omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(62)

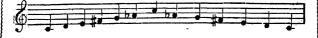
DESCENDING.



With B omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(63)



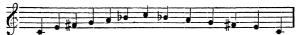


With D omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

Ascending.

(64)

DESCENDING.



With E omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(65)

DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(66)

DESCENDING.



With A omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(67)

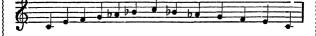
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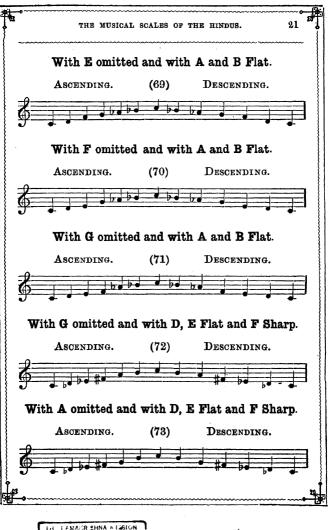


With D omitted and with A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(68) DESCENDING.





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27,462

With B omitted and with D, E Flat and F Sharp.



With F omitted and with D, E and A Flat.

Ascending. (75) Descending.



With G omitted and with D, E and A Flat.

Ascending. (76) Descending.



With B omitted and with D, E and A Flat.

Ascending. (77) Descending.



With F omitted and with D, E and B Flat.

Ascending. (78) Descending.



With G omitted and with D, E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(79) D

Descending.



With A omitted and with D, E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(80) Descending.



With E omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(81)

Descending.



With G omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(82)

DESCENDING.



With B omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(83)





With E omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(84)

DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(85)

DESCENDING.



With A omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(86)

Descending.



With E omitted and with D, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(87)

DESCENDING.

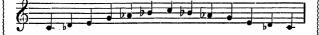


With F omitted and with D, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(88)

Descending.



With G omitted and with D, A and B Flat.



With D omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With Gomitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With B omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With Domitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat. (93)

ASCENDING.



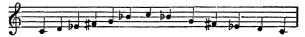
With G omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.



With A omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(95) Descending.



With D omitted and with E, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(96)

DESCENDING.



With F omitted and with E, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(97)

DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with E, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(98)



With D omitted and with F Sharp, A and B Flat.



With E omitted and with F Sharp, A and B Flat.



With G omitted and with F Sharp, A and B Flat.



With G omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With B omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat



With G omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(104)

Descending.



With A omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(105)

DESCENDING.



With F omitted and with D, E, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(106)

Descending.

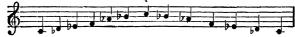


With G omitted and with D, E, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(107)

DESCENDING.



With E omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(108)



29

With G omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(109) DESCENDING.



With D omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp. A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(110) DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(111)

DESCENDING.



With G omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp. A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(112)



ORABA THAT.

With D and E omitted.



With D and F omitted.



With D and G omitted.



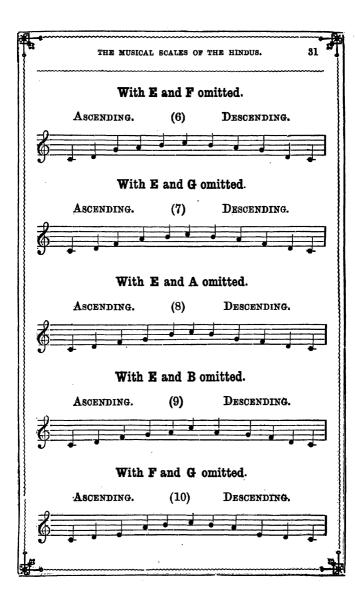
With D and A omitted.

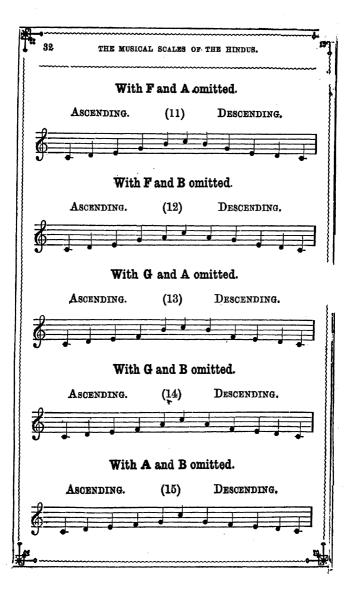


With D and B omitted.



^{*} Scales consisting of five Notes.





With D and E omitted and with F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(16)

DESCENDING.



With D and E omitted and with A Flat.

Ascending. (17)

DESCENDING.



With D and E omitted and with B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(18) Descending.



With D and F omitted and with E Flat.

ASCENDING.

(19)

DESCENDING.



With D and F omitted and with A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(20)





With D and F omitted and with B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(21)

DESCENDING.



With D and G omitted and with E Flat.

ASCENDING.

(22)

DESCENDING.



With D and G omitted and with F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(23)

DESCENDING.



With D and G omitted and with A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(24) DESCENDING.

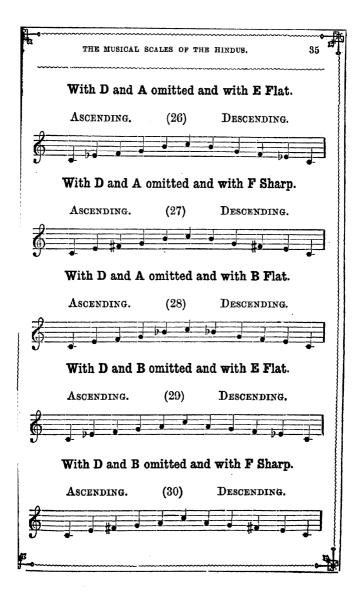


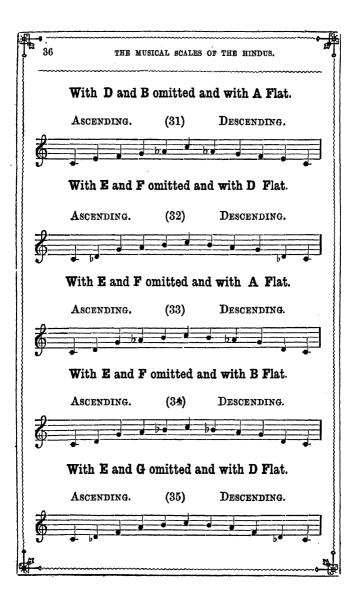
With D and G omitted and with B Flat.

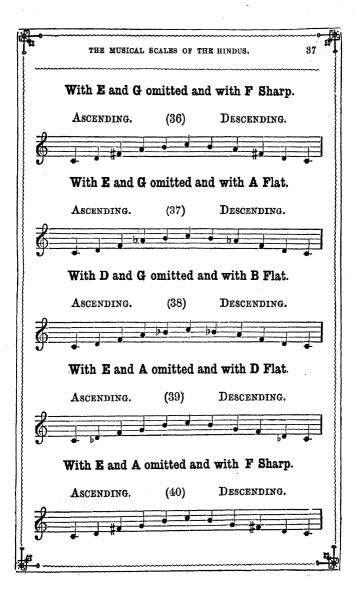
ASCENDING.

(25)









With E and A omitted and with B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(41)

Descending.



With E and B omitted and with D Flat.

ASCENDING.

(42) Descending.



With E and B omitted and with F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(43)

DESCENDING.



With E and B omitted and with A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(44)

DESCENDING.



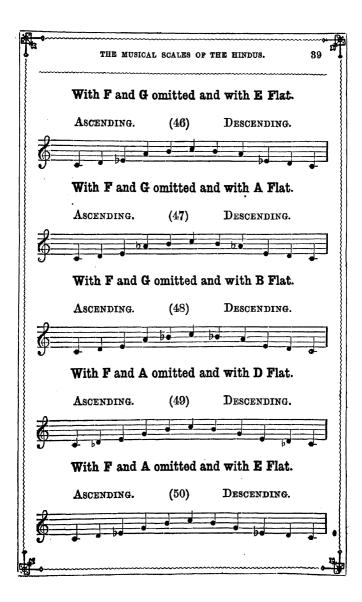
With F and G omitted and with D Flat.

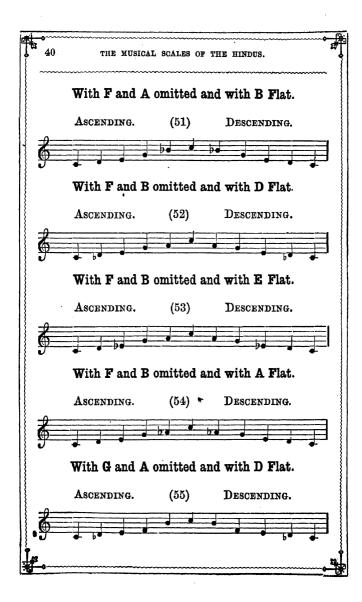
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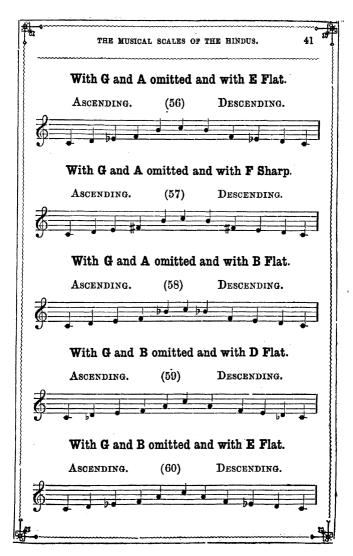
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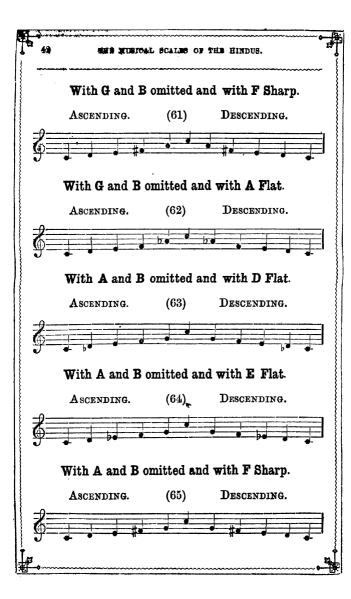
Descending.











43

With D and E omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

Ascending.

(66)

Descending.



With D and E omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(67)

DESCENDING.



With D and E omitted and with A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(68)

DESCENDING.



With D and F omitted and with E and A Flat.

Ascending.

(69)

DESCENDING.



With D and F omitted and with E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(70)



With D and F omitted and with A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(71)

DESCENDING.



With D and G omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(72) DESCENDING.



With D and G omitted and with E and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(73)

Descending.



With D and G omitted and with E and B Flat.

Ascending. (74) Descending.



With D and G omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(75) Descending.



With D and G omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

Ascending.

(76)

Descending.



With D and G omitted and with A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(77)

DESCENDING.



With D and A omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(78)

DESCENDING.



With D and A omitted and with E and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(79)

DESCENDING.



With D and A omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(80)





With D and B omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(81)

DESCENDING.



With D and B omitted and with E and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(82)

DESCENDING.



With D and B omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(83)

DESCENDING.



With E and F omitted and with D and A Flat.

ASCENDING. (84)* DESCENDING.



With E and F omitted and with D and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(85)





With E and F omitted and with A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(86) DESCENDING.



With E and G omitted and with D Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(87)

DESCENDING.



With E and G omitted and with D and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(88)

DESCENDING.



With E and G omitted and with D and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(89)

Descending.

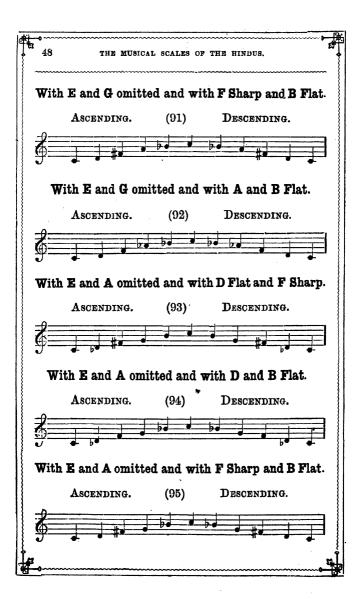


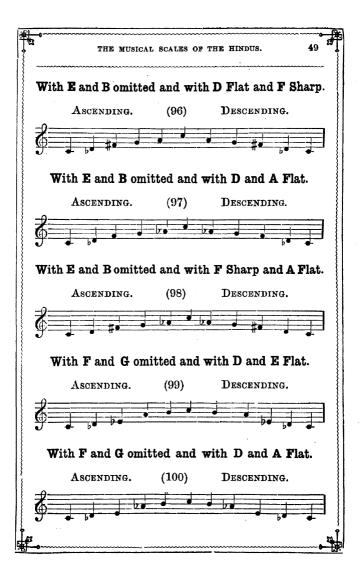
With E and G omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(90)









With F and G omitted and with D and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(101)

DESCENDING.



With F and G omitted and with E and A Flat.

Ascending. (102)

DESCENDING.



With F and G omitted and with E and B Flat.

Ascending. (103) Descending.



With F and G omitted and with A and B Flat.

ASCENDING. (104) DESCENDING.



With F and A omitted and with D and E Flat.

ASCENDING. (105) DESCENDING.





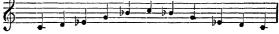
With F and A omitted and with D and B Flat.

(106)ASCENDING. Descending.



With F and A omitted and with E and B Flat.

ASCENDING. (107) DESCENDING.



With F and B omitted and with D and E Flat.

ASCENDING. (108) DESCENDING.



With F and B omitted and with D and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(109) Descending.



With F and B omitted and with E and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(110) DESCENDING.





With G and A omitted and with D and E Flat.

ASCENDING.

(111)

DESCENDING.



With G and A omitted and with D Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING.

(112)

DESCENDING.



With G and A omitted and with D and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(113) Descending.



With G and A omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

Ascending. (114) Descending.



With G and A omitted and with E and B Flat.

Ascending. (115) Descending.





With G and A omitted and with F Sharp and B Flat.

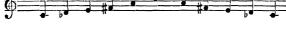
Ascending. (116) Descending.

With G and B omitted and with D and E Flat.

Ascending. (117) Descending.

With G and B omitted and with D Flat and F Sharp.

Ascending. (118) Descending.



With G and B omitted and with D and A Flat.

Ascending. (119) Descending.



With G and B omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

Ascending. (120) Descending.



With G and B omitted and with E and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(121) DESCENDING.



With G and B omitted and with F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING.

(122)

DESCENDING.



With A and B omitted and with D and E Flat.

Ascending. (123)

DESCENDING.



With A and B omitted and with D Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING. (124) DESCENDING.



With A and B omitted and with E Flat and F Sharp.

ASCENDING. (125) DESCENDING.



WithD and E omitted and with F Sharp, A and B Flat.



With D and F omitted and with E, A and B Flat.



With D and G omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With D and G omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.



With D and G omitted and with E, A and B Flat.



With D and G omitted and with F Sharp, A and B Flat.



With D and A omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.



With D and B omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

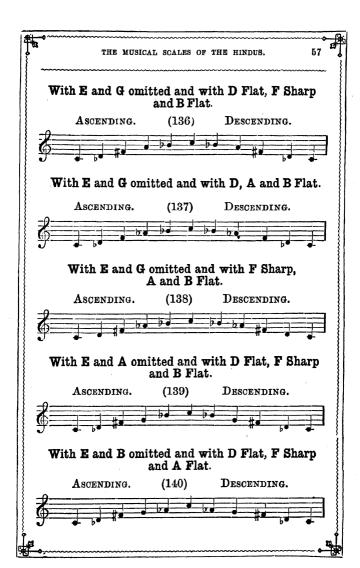


With E and F omitted and with D, A and B Flat.



With E and G omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.





With F and G omitted and with D, E and A Flat.

Ascending. (141) Descending.



With F and G omitted and with D, E and B Flat.

ASCENDING. (142) DESCENDING.



With F and G omitted and with D, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING.

(143) Descending.



With F and G omitted and with E, A and B Flat.

Ascending.

(144)

DESCENDING.



With F and A omitted and with D, E and B Flat.

Ascending. (145) Descending.





With F and B omitted and with D, E and A Flat.



With G and A omitted and with D, E Flat and F Sharp.



With G and A omitted and with D, E and B Flat.



With G and A omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

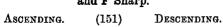


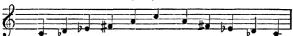
With G and A omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.





With G and B omitted and with D, E Flat and F Sharp.





With G and B omitted and with D, E and A Flat.



With G and B omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With G and B omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.



With A and B omitted and with D, E Flat and F Sharp.



With D and G omitted and with E Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

Ascending. (156) Descending.



With E and G omitted and with D Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

ASCENDING. (157) DESCENDING.



With F and G omitted and with D, E, A and B Flat.

Ascending. (158) Descending.



With G and A omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp and B Flat.

ASCENDING. (159) DESCENDING.



With G and B omitted and with D, E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

ASCENDING. (160) DESCENDING.



Allustrations.

SUMPURNA THÁT.

(1)*

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í DEOGIRÍ.

FIRST STRAIN.





^{*} The numerals given here refer to those of the scales shown under the heading "Sumpurpa Thât" in the preceding pages.

(2)

RÁGA PANCHAMÁ.

With D Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.



SECOND STRAIN.



(3)

RÁGINÍ DEOSÁGA.

With E Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.



SECOND STRAIN.



(4)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í KALYÁ<u>N</u>A.

With F Sharp.

FIRST STRAIN.





(ŏ)

RÁGINÍ PANCHAMA-BÁHÁRA.

With A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(6)

RÁGINÍ JHIJHITÍ.

With B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(7)

RÁGINÍ SOHÁ-BHAIRAVÍ.

With D and E Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(8)

RÁGINÍ MÁLIGAURÁ.

With D Flat and F Sharp.

FIRST STRAIN.





(9)

RÁGINÍ KALIÑGARÁ.

With D and A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(10)

RÁGINÍ ÁMRA-PANCHAMA.

With D and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(11)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í VALLARÍ.

With E Flat and F Sharp.

FIRST STRAIN.





(12)

RÁGINÍ PILU.

With E and A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(13)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í SINDHU.

With E and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(14)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í KAUMÁRIKÁ.

With F Sharp and A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(20)

RÁGINÍ DHÁNAŚRÍ.

With D Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(22)

RÁGINÍ YOGINÁ.

With D, A and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(25)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í BÁGÍSVARÍ.

With E, A and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(27)

RÁGINÍ GUJJARÍ.

With D, E Flat, F Sharp and A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(29)

RÁGINÍ BHAIRAVÍ.

With D, E, A and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





81

(32)

RÁGINÍ TORÍ.

With D and E Flat, F Sharp, A and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.







THE MUSICAL SCALES OF THE HINDUS.

(3)

SHÁRAVA THÁT.

RÁGINÍ BIBHÁSA.

With F omitted.

FIRST STRAIN.





(14)

RÁGINÍ SUR-MALLÁRA.

With E omitted and with B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.







(19)

RÁGINÍ SOHINÍ.

With G omitted and with D Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(37)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í PURIYÁ.

With G omitted and with D Flat and F Sharp.

FIRST STRAIN.





(59)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í NÁGADHVANI-KÁNA<u>R</u>Á.

With A omitted and with E and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(8)

ORAVA THÁT.

RÁGI<u>n</u>Í VRINDÁVAÑÍ-SÁRAÑGA.

With E and A omitted.

FIRST STRAIN.





(23)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í HINDOLA.

With D and G omitted and with F Sharp.

FIRST STRAIN.







(27)

RÁGINÍ MÁLAŚRÍ.

With D and A omitted and with F Sharp.

FIRST STRAIN.





(88)

RÁGINÍ DHABALAŚRÍ.

With E and G omitted and with D and A Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.





(130)

RÁGI<u>N</u>Í MÁLKOŚA.

With D and G omitted and with E, A and B Flat.

FIRST STRAIN.









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In the preceding pages have been given the Scales which are mostly in use in Hindu Music, and a few specimens of the Rágas which are composed on the basis of such Scales. In order to ascertain whether and to what extent Harmony is applicable to Rágas, it would be necessary to enquire into the principles underlying them, and with this view a brief account of the Hindu System of Music is given below.

According to both ancient and modern authorities, the number of the principal musical Notes is seven, and these seven Notes go respectively by the names of Sharja, Rishabha, Gándhára, Madhyama, Panchama, Dhaivata and Nisháda, or as they are popularly known by their symbolic names, sa, ri, ga, ma, pa, dha and ni, corresponding very closely to C, D, E, F, G, A, and B of the European System of music. These seven Notes constitute a S'aptaka. European Musicians add to these the first note of the next S'aptaka and designate the series as an octave. They are found to use seven, eight, or more octaves on the Piano and some other instruments. the classical authorities on Hindu Music used only three S'aptakas in their vocal or instrumental music, these being styled. Mandra (or Udárá), Madhya (or Mudárá), and Tára, (or Tárá). Modern musicians, however, sometimes make use of four S'aptakas.

The S'rutis are subdivisions of sound intervening the notes. They are twenty-two in number and are thus arranged:—Four in Sharja, three in Rishabha, two in Gándhára, four in Madhyama, four in Panchama, three in Dhaivata, and two in Nisháda. In the arrangement of the S'rutis, modern usage is diametrically opposite to the classical one; the latter placing them before the Notes to which they respectively belong, while the former fix their position after the Notes. Supposing a

cypher to represent a S'ruti, the classical arrangement would be like thus:---

The modern arrangement* is as follows:--

It is difficult to determine when or by whom the alteration in the arrangement was effected. The arrangement of the frets on the Viná and other stringed instruments accords with the modern acceptation of the principle.* It will be seen from a look at these instruments, that, in them Gándhára and Nisháda, each of which has two S'rutis, and is called in European music a semi-tone, have, between themselves and the succeeding notes, half the space that is allotted to those having four S'rutis; and following the same method, Rishabha and Dhairata, have, with reference to the next succeeding Notes, each a fourth less than that of Sharja, Madhyama, and Panchama (each of which has four S'rutis). According to a rule laid down in the classical treatises, the disposition of the notes is reversed in the case of Dáraví (literally, wooden, i.e., stringed) instruments, and out of this reversed arrangement, perhaps, the modern theory about the arrangement of the position of the S'rutis has been evolved.

According to the theory of the ancients, Sharja, Gándhára and Madhyama each constituted a Gráma.† In support of this, it is asserted that Sharja‡ is the principal Gráma, inasmuch as it is the principal note from which proceeds the recognition.

Capt. Willard, Sir W. Jones, and other eminent writers, who had carefully studied the principles of Indian Music and were practically acquainted with it, adopted the modern disposition of the Srutis.

[†] Gr'ama, in Indian Music, means a series of notes arranged according to certain rules.

[‡] Etymologically speaking, Sharja is that from which shat (i.e., the six notes) arise.

nition of the six other notes. The Madhyama is declared a Gráma, because the use of this note is never avoided in the Shárava* and Orava* Scales. Gándhára is deemed eligible to be taken as a Gráma, because it springs from the celestial beings and is consequently a great favorite of theirs. The use of the Gándhára Gráma is confined only to the celestial regions. Some writers, again, recognise Panchama as a Gráma in lieu of Gándhára. Musicians of the modern day, as well as the author of the classical treatise "Sangita Sudhákara", however, recognise the Sharja of each of the three S'aptakas as a Grama. In justification of the view taken by them, they argue that it is useless to hold the Gándhára to be a Gráma, since its application is utterly unknown in the terrestrial regions. As regards the Madhyama, they remark that the reasons for which the ancients styled it a Grama do not hold good in the present day, for there are in modern use several Rágas of the Shárava and Orava Scales, in which the Madhyama is strictly excluded, such, for instance, as the Bhúpálí, Bibhása, &c. According to classical works, the conditions of the three Gramas are as follows :-

In the case of the Sharja Gráma, the fifth Note (Panchama) should remain on its fourth S'ruti, and the sixth Note (Dhaivata), on its third, provided there are no alterations made in the arrangement of the S'rutis with regard to either of the notes.

In the case of the Madhyama Grāma, the Panchama should be on its third S'ruti instead of the fourth, and the Dhaivata, though including into itself the fourth S'ruti of the preceding Panchama, should remain on its own third,—the value of these two Notes being, of course, affected by the altered arrangement of the S'rutis.

In the case of the Gándhára Gráma, the Gándhára should take into itself the last S'ruti of the Rishabha and the first of the

For explanation of these terms Vide posts.

Madhyama, and thus become a note consisting of four S'rutis; the Dhaivata should leave off its last S'ruti and take the last S'ruti of the Panchama, thus continuing to be a note of three S'rutis, (but not according to the natural arrangement of the S'aptaka); and the Nishāda should take possession of the last S'ruti left by the Dhaivata, and the first S'ruti of Sharja of the succeeding S'aptaka, and thus become a note of four S'rutis.

The following tables respectively explain the position of the S'rutis in the three Grámas as recognised by the ancient authorities.

SHARJA GRÁMA.

| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | o | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
|---|---|---|------------|---|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|-----|---|----|---|
| | | | 8 a | | | ri | | ga | | | | ma | : | | ž | pa | | | dha | | ni | į |

MADHYAMA GRAMA.

GANDHARA GRAMA.

The ancients have divided the seven Notes into Prakrita or S'uddha and Vikrita. A Note is considered Prakrita when it remains in its own position in the order of the gamut, provided with the full complement of S'rulis assigned to it. But when, by leaving off any of its own S'rulis or by taking any S'ruli which belongs to the note preceding or succeeding it, it becomes a note possessed of a less or greater number of S'rulis than that originally fixed for it, or by giving and at the same time taking a S'ruli, of the same number as it should possess, it is then called a Vikrila note. The Vikrila note again is subdivided into two:—viz, Chyula Vikrila and Achyula Vikrila. By the former term is meant a note which has been removed from its fixed hold on a S'ruli; by the latter, one which, though retaining its own seat, becomes, by the process of giving away

any S'ruti to another or of taking one from it, possessed of a less or greater number of S'rutis than that originally fixed for it, or by giving and taking one at the same time of the same number as is assigned to it.

The number of Prakrita notes is seven, and that of Vikrita Notes, twelve. They are respectively shown as under:—

PRAKRITA.

sa ri ga ma padha ni.

VIKRITA.

ni ni sa sa ri gagamama *pa dha.

Modern musicians, however, make up the number of Vikrita notes in a different way. They do so by making the notes Rishabha, Gándhára, Madhyama, Dhaivata and Nisháda,—Flat or very Flat, and Sharp or very Sharp.

According to them, the classification is as follows:-

PRAKRITA.

sa ri gama pa dha ni.

VIKRITA.

We have briefly enumerated some of the principal features of the Notes. We shall now proceed to show their application to Rágas.

A $R\acute{a}ga$ is the succession of notes so arranged, according to prescribed rules, as to awaken a certain feeling of the mind. The notes essential to the composition of a $R\acute{a}ga$ are of

^{*} The above shows 11 Vikrita notes only. But pa becomes Vikrita twice; once when pa is one Sruti less in the Madhyama Grāma, and another time, when in the case of Madhyama Sādhārana, Gindhāra takes the first Sruti of Mādhyama, and panchama, while standing on its 3rd Sruti, takes the last Sruti of the Madhyama. It should be distinctly remembered that the 12 Vikritas as shown above are made up by the Sharja and the Madhyama Grāmas being put together.

four kinds, viz., Vádí, Samvádí, Anuvádí, and Vivádí. In the opinion of both ancient and modern authorities, that note is called the Vádí, which, by the frequency of its application in a certain Rága, and by the length of its duration, shows to the best advantage the character and the living form, as it were, of that Rága. Hence the Vádí is called the Rájá (king), that is, the principal note, and by Hindusthani musicians, the jan, or the life and soul, of the Rága. Any note lying with an interval of eight or twelve S'rutis either in the ascending or descending Scale from the Vádí is called the Samvádí, or minister to the Vadí. The application of such a note is, of course, less frequent than that of the Vádí, but more than that of the other Notes. When, for instance, Sharja is the Vádí of a certain Rága, Madhyama and Panchama would be its Samvádís, as there is an interval of eight S'rutis between Sharja and Madhyama, and of twelve, between Sharja and Panchama. In the event of Rishabha being the Vádí, the Samvádís would be Panchama and Dhaivata; in the case of Gándhára, the Nishada only, there being no Prakrita note, with an interval of eight S'rutis between it and the Vádí; in the case of Madhyama, the Sharja only (there being no other Prakrita note meeting the conditions); in that of Panchama, the Sharja and the Rishabha; in that of Dhaivata, the Rishabha, and, in that of Nishada, the Gandhara.* The rules given above for

Vádí Samvádi ... Madhyama and Panchama. Shurja ... Dhaivata. Rishabha ... Nishada. Gándhára ... Nishida and Sharja. Madhyama ... ••• ... Sharja. Panchama ... ••• ... Rishabha. ... Gándhára and Madhyama. Dhaivata • • • ... Nisháda

It may be noted here that, according to the authorities, Nishda cannot be Samvádí to any other note than Gándhára and vice versa. Madhyama, therefore, can have only one Samvádí, which will be Sharja, though according to the calculations, it is shown to have Nishádá too for its Samvádí. Nisháda will have Gándhára only for its Samvádí.

[•] The above is the result of calculations made according to the modern disposition of Srutis. According to the ancient method, the Samvádis would be as follows:—

the determination of the relation between the Vádí and the Samvádí in the case of Prakrita notes hold good with reference to Vikrita notes too. Some authors are of opinion that, except in the case of Madhyama and Panchama (these being immediately contiguous to each other), all notes having an equal number of S'rutis are Vádís and Samvádís to one another. An exception, however, is made in the case of Rishabha and Panchama, as these notes, though differing from each other in the number of S'rutis, do, as a matter of fact, stand to each other in the relation of Vádí and Samvádí, when, upon the former (Rishabha) being made the key-note, the latter (Panchama) takes up the position of Madhyama. The theory therefore resolves itself into this, that a Note will find its Samvádí in its fourth or fifth or both, provided such Notes are admissible according to the character of the Rága.

That note, the application of which in a certain Rága destroys its character, is termed Vivádi, or the enemy.

All notes other than those which have been characterised as above are called *Anuvádis* or subordinates.

The relation of the notes to each other is strikingly illustrated by the Sanskrit authorities in the symbolic classification made of them according to caste and color. Sharja, Madhyama, and Panchama, each of which has four S'rutis attached to it, come under the Brâhmaṇa, or the highest caste; Rishabha and Dhaivata (each having three S'rutis), under the Kshatriya, or the next class; Gândhâra and Nishâda (each having two S'rutis), under the Vais'ya, or the third class; and the Vikrita notes, (i.e. such notes as have fallen from their former position), under the S'ûdra, or the lowest class. The names and nature of the colors attributed to the Notes are very nearly the same as given by Mr. George Field in his work styled "Chromatics: or the Analogy, Harmony and Philosophy of Colors." They are given in juxtaposition as follows:—

to

| Names of the Notes. | Color according to Sanskrit Authorities. | Color according Mr. Field. | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Sharja. | Black. | Blue. | | | |
| Rishabha. | Purple. | Parple. | | | |
| Gándhára. | Golden. | Red. | | | |
| Madhyama. | White. | Orange. | | | |
| Panchama. | Yellow. | Yellow. | | | |
| Dhaivata. | Grey. | Grey. | | | |
| Nisháda. | Green. | Green. | | | |

By means of colored diagrams, Mr. Field has illustrated the analogy of the Definitive Scale of Colors and the gamut of the musicians. Any one acquainted with both music and painting will not, remarks Mr. Field, "find it difficult to carry these relations into figures and the forms of science universally. And as the acuteness, tone, and gravity of musical Notes, blend or run into each other through an infinite series in the musical Scale, imparting Melody to musical composition, so do the like infinite sequences of the tints, hues, and shades of colors, impart mellowness, or melody to colors and coloring. Upon these gradations and successions depend the sweetest effects of colors in nature and painting, so analogous to the melody of musical sounds, that we have not hesitated to call them the Melody of Colors." Mr. Field has gone into details on both the melody and harmony of colors and in music, but those details are omitted here as being too lengthy for, though not foreign to, the scope of the present treatise. It would be sufficient for the purposes of this book to observe that the Sanskrit authorities on music recognized the analogy, and were perhaps, to some extent, guided by it in the determination of the concords and discords of Notes.

We now come to the examination of the essential conditions according to which the Rágas are composed and performed. Each Rága is divided into four parts or strains; the 1st being called the Stháyí, the 2nd—the Antará, the 3rd—the Sanchárí,

and the 4th—the A'bloga. The Rágas are divided into three kinds; viz., (1) Sampurna, or those in which all the seven notes of the gamut are used; (2) Shárava, or those in which only six notes are used; and (3) Orava, or those in which only five are used. Each of these three classifications is subdivided into three. These are (1) S'uddha (i.e., pure), or those which show the character of only one Rága; (2) Chháyálaga or Sálanka, or those the composition of which partakes of the nature of two Rágas artistically blended into each other; and (3) Sankirna (i.e., mixed), or those which are a mixture of three or more Rágas.

The Six Original Rágas* are the only instances of the Suddha class. These are known by the names of S'rí, Vasanta, Bhairava, Panchama, Megha and Nata-náráyana. Three of these Rágas are noted below:—

S'RÍ.

FIRST STRAIN.



 The Six Principal Rágas are called the Rágas proper. The mixtures are called either Rágas or Ráginis.





SECOND STRAIN.



NATA-NÁRÁYA<u>N</u>A.



SECOND STRAIN.



The mixture of two of the Six Original Rágas with each other gives birth to the Sálanka Rágas. The mixture of Megha (otherwise called Mallára) with Nata-náráyana has produced the Rága named Nata-Mallára, of which the following is the form:—

NATA-MALLÁRA.



SECOND STRAIN.



A mixed Rága has a character of its own exclusive of that derived from the combination of two distinct Rágas. In the Sálanka Rága noted above, the passages marked 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, partake of the nature of Megha, and the other passages represent Nata-náráyana.

The admixture of three or more of the Original Rágas, or of any two or more of the Sálanka, or a combination of both, called into existence the Sankirna Rágas. The blending of S'ri, Megha, and Nata-náráyana, for instance, produced the Rága named Kámoda of which the notation is given as follows:—

KÁMODA.

FIRST STRAIN.















In the above $R\'{a}ga$ the passages marked 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 represent Megha, those marked 2, 6 and 8 are derived from $Nata-n\'{a}r\'{a}yaya$, and those marked 4 and 10 partake of the character of $S\'{r}i$.

Most of the Rágas are so constructed that, while in the ascending way certain notes are avoided and others slightly dwelt upon, those notes are respectively applied and used in a distinct manner in the descending process. It is not necessary that in the performance of a Rága the Notes should be used in a graduated series. They are generally used in a mixed manner. Neither is the duration of the Notes nor their number uniform. Their variety adds not only to the grace and beauty of a Rága, but is essential to its individuality and character. Then, again, a certain Rága is made manifest with the Múrchchhaná* peculiar to it, without which its development is considerably affected.

The observance of the foregoing rules, which are some of the many attached to the execution of the Rágas, enables one to perform a piece with precision and with regard to the integrity of its character. Any breach of those rules conduces to the marring of the effect of the Rágas and to the mutilation of the form with which the authorities have clothed them. It is needless to mention that it is only at the hands of skilful musicians who have carefully studied the principles that justice is done to the character of the Rágas.

Márchchhaná, in the modern acceptation of the term, means the extension of a note to another in the ascending as well as the descending scale without any break in the arrangement of the intervening S'rutis.

It is almost generally complained by European musicians that Hindu Music is not perfect, because Harmony is not applied to it. Some of them despise the music of Hindusthan, simply on this account; others very kindly offer suggestions as to the feasibility of harmonising it. A careful consideration of the method in which vocal and instrumental music is performed in this country cannot but lead one to the conclusion that Hindu Music is not altogether devoid of Harmony, though this Harmony may not be the same as that by which European musicians understand the term. The use of the S'resthálankára (a kind of musical grace) on the Vina, Setar and some other stringed instruments, the singing in chorus by boys and adults in melo-dramatic performances, the tuning, in some instances, of the drum instruments Mridanga and Tablá &c. to the fourth or the fifth of the key-note adopted by the vocalist or instrumentalist whose performances these pulsatile instruments are intended to accompany—all these facts, and others, tend, in some way, to show that the principles of Harmony are not altogether unknown to the musicians of India. Besides, certain treatises* on Indian Music have dwelt upon this theme and laid down certain rules for the safe application of Harmony. But the use of Harmony, as defined therein, would not, it is feared, come up to the standard aimed at by the musicians of Europe. The spirit of Indian Music is against the adoption of Harmony in the European import. † The Raga is essentially melodic in its character-it is a succession of notes artistically

Mention is made in the classical works of an innumerable variety of the permutation and combination of sounds having formed the subject of study with the Musician. It is further mentioned that the sage Nárada had learnt of Ulúka a large number of tonal combinations.

[†] Capt. Willard, who had a practical acquaintance with the subject, makes the following remarks in his "Treatise on the Music of Hindusthan:"—

[&]quot;Indeed so wide is the difference between the natures of European and Oriental Music, that I conceive a great many of the latter would baffle the attempts of the most expert contrapuntiat to bet a Harmony to them, by the existing rules of that science."

so arranged as to produce a certain effect, differing in the minutest particulars from that derivable from another Rága.

The two Sharava Rágas, Bibhása, and Bhúpálí, for instance, are very much like each other in character, but the permutation and the duration of the Notes applicable to them constitute a wide difference between the two as the subjoined illustrations will show:—

BIBHÁSA.



BHÚPÁLÍ.

FIRST STRAIN.





SECOND STRAIN.





It will be seen from the above, how the two Rágas differ from each other in essential particulars. The tunes that may be composed out of these must necessarily partake of the difference. Two tunes composed of Bibhása and two of Bhúpálí are given as follows by way of example:

BIBHÁSA.

(Tune 1.)

Tála---Madhyamána.

FIRST STRAIN.



SECOND STRAIN.





BIBHÁSA.

(Tune 2.)

Tála-Madhyamána.





BHÚPÁLÍ.

(Tune 2.)

Tála-Madhyamána.

FIRST STRAIN.





Two Rágas which are played on the same Thát (Mode) may be so constituted with reference to the permutation of the Notes, that one will widely differ from the other in character. The Rágas Lalita and Purabi, for example, are played on the same Thát, viz., D flat, F, and F sharp, and yet owing to the peculiarity in the arrangement of the Notes with regard to their ascension and descension, the former has been classed under the group performable in the morning, and the latter under that performable in the evening. The two Rágas as noted down below will show the points of dissimilarity:—

LALITA.

FIRST STRAIN.





PURABÍ.

FIRST STRAIN.





The illustrations given before will, it is hoped, show the nature of the difference that exists between one $R\acute{a}ga$ and another, and it is by the drawing of these niceties that an endless variety of $R\acute{a}gas$ has been composed out of the mixture of one with another. Now, these niceties it would be next to impossible to observe, if an attempt to improve upon the compositions be made, by the superaddition of any Note or Notes foreign to its nature, by means of Harmony which is a combination of Notes. The combined sound of the first and the fifth, for instance, would be a chord, and this combination (which is a stranger to Indian Music and, as a sound, not recognised by it), when tacked occasionally on to a melodic piece would certainly destroy its character as a $R\acute{a}ga$, and would render the whole thing not only un-Hindu Music, but a perfect babel of foreign jargon.

The outlines of the principles of Indian Music given in the preceding pages show the intricacies of the system, and should efforts be made to introduce Harmony into Indian Music, without due care and attention, the effects on its integrity would be simply disastrous. For, to steer clear of all difficulties, one will have to see that the Notes inimical to the character of a Raga are avoided, that such Notes which should not be used in the ascending or descending process are not so applied, that the rules observable with regard to the application of Notes in a mixed Rága are not infringed, that a Note is not prolonged further than is necessary, that a Note or a series of Notes expressed by means of the Murchchhanú are not sounded individually and in a detached way,-and so forth. Hindu Music abounds in many Rágas, such as Kánará and Gonra, with complicated Múrchchhanás, and others, like Gauri and Múltání, wherein the third or quarter tones are used, the nature of which would not admit of their being transcribed according to the current system of European notation or of

being correctly rendered on such European instruments as the Piano or Harmonium,*—far less harmonization. A few Rágas of a simple character might be set to Harmony.

It is necessary to observe that the application of chords on the Melody is out of the question. On the Piano and similar instruments, simple chords with the left hand might be judiciously attempted. Sharja (C) and Panchama (G) might be alternately made to accompany the melody, with the left hand, provided Panchama is admissible in the Rága; otherwise Madhyama, when it is the principal note in the Rága, may be used. But the alternate use of two or three notes would not do away with the monotony which Harmony is clearly intended to obviate.

It would seem, after all, that the difficulties in the way of harmonising Hindu Music are by no means few or small. Nothing but a compromise can solve the problem. Let the European musicians modify their rules of Harmony so that it may be applied to Indian Music with the least injury to its integrity, and the also one Hindu musicians relax the strungency of the rules with which their Music is bound hard and fast. Unless both parties are prepared to make concessions, it would be futile to engraft Harmony on Indian Music. The parties to

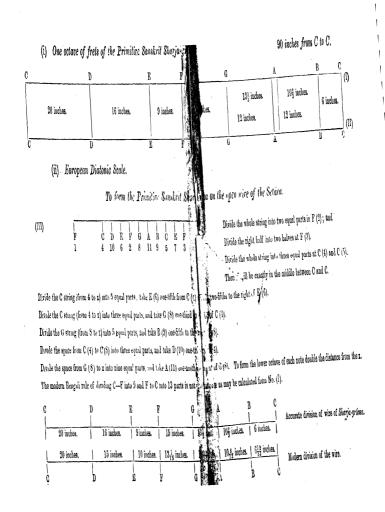
^{*} In a supplement to this book will be found a comparative drawing of the Sharja Gráma and the European Diatonic Scale, as executed for me by a European friend. If I understand the subject aright, the difference in the intervals of the two Scales is a stumbling block to the correct rendering of the Indian notes on such instruments having fixed keys as the Piano and the Harmonium. The difficulty of playing Hindu Rágas or tunes on such instruments may well be imagined, and how far the plan of harmonizing them may be affected thereby, I leave it to the thoughtful musician to determine.

[†] In the absence of a thorough knowledge of the principles of Harmony as recognised in European Music, I could not take upon myself to give an illustration of a Harmonised piece of Hindu Music. But I have no doubt that some expert contrapuntist will be able to furnish one on the lines indicated.

the compromise should be such persons only as are thoroughly conversant with the music of both Europe and India, for while they apply Harmony, they should be bound to see that they give the least offence,—for offence they must necessarily give,—to the ear of the people who have cherished with pleasure and pride a form of music which, it is traditionally believed, has come down to them from the heavens, or at any rate, from time immemorial, from their fore-fathers—the Aryans of learning and fame—the early pioneers of civilization in the land of the rising sun.

THE END.

[Supplement to "The Bacales of the Hindus."] THE SHARJA-GRAMA AND DROPEAN DIATONIC SCALE.



ERRATA.

| Page. | Stave. | Corrections. | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------------|----------|-----------|--------|--------------|
| 103 | 5 | All F's | from the | 12th Note | should | be Naturals. |
| 104 | 2 | Ditto | ditto | 14th | ditto | ditto. |
| 106 | 2 | Ditto | ditto | 12th | ditto | ditto. |
| 107 | 1 | Ditto | ditto | 1 st | ditto | ditto. |